

Woman's Club of Palo Alto

Presents

Antiques Appraisal Day



May 19, 2007

475 Homer Avenue ♦ Palo Alto ♦ California ♦ 94301





# Antiques Appraisal Day

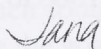
May 19, 2007

The Members of the Palo Alto Woman's Club would like to extend their warmest appreciation to our wonderful team of appraisers without whose generosity and expertise this Antiques Appraisal Day would not be possible: Bob Backlund, Georgie Gleim, Marsha Vargas Handley, Cherie Helm, Patricia Knight, Ginnie Lee, Leila Phee Lyons and Dana Conley Lyons, Irene Nordling Underwood and Lesley Underwood, and Steve Yvaska.

We would also like to thank the many sponsors who aided us in our effort to produce this event. And, finally, special thanks to the generations of women whose commitment and friendship have supported the Woman's Club of Palo Alto throughout the years.

Because of the support of all of these generous people, the Woman's Club of Palo Alto will be able to use the proceeds of this event for the continued preservation of our historic building.

Thank You,



Jana Stevens  
President  
Woman's Club of Palo Alto

Woman's Club of Palo Alto 501(c) 3 Non-Profit Tax ID # 94-6090501



## The Woman's Club of Palo Alto and Its Clubhouse

On June 20, 1894, twenty four women met at the old Presbyterian Church to formally organize the Palo Alto Woman's Club which they dedicated to the goals of "friendship, self-improvement and community involvement." These pioneer women contributed to Palo Alto by founding its 1st library, building its first high school, striving for woman suffrage and even planting this pioneer town's first trees.

In 1904, The Woman's Club was incorporated and the dream of building a Clubhouse led to the development of a lot fund. By 1906, the Club with 106 members purchased a lot on the northwest corner of Homer Avenue and Cowper Street for the princely sum of \$1,500.00. There was some trepidation that this location was "too far in the country" from the fledgling town. For the next 10 years, incessant fund raising through receptions, food markets, costume parties, sell-out speakers such as Helen Keller and the publication of two books, The Santa Clara Valley and a Woman's Club Cook Book enabled the women to raise \$5,370.00 for construction.

The architect chosen was Charles Edward Hodges (1866-1943) a resident of Palo Alto who had offices in San Francisco and who had been the resident architect at Stanford from 1888 to 1906. In addition to overseeing the construction of the Quadrangle, Memorial Church and the Museum, Hodges contributed 8 buildings to Palo Alto's Historic Inventory - one of which is our Clubhouse at 475 Homer Avenue. Hodges' choice of a Tudor-Craftsman style for The Woman's Club ensured that it would blend into its residential setting and yet, not be mistaken for a house. To further meld home with meeting place, the building included two fireplaces and a kitchen as these elements were associated with home and welcome as well as with social functions.

Craftsman details in the Club's interior are seen in the built-in cupboard in the Fireside Room as well as in the wainscoting throughout the building.



Another example of the Arts and Crafts movement is the fireplace tiles which were manufactured by Steiger Terra Cotta and Pottery Co., located at 18th and Division in South San Francisco. These salt-glazed tiles have a varied-surface effect which was achieved by throwing salt on the tiles while they were in the kiln, a process known as salt glazing. Brown grouting was typically used with salt glazed tiling. Steiger only produced such tiles for a 5 year period around 1910. These tiles are an early example of the Craftsman style, pre-dating the better known tiles of Batchelder.

The cornerstone was engraved and donated by George McLachlan and laid in a June 1916 ceremony. A house warming party was held on Sept 22, 1916. The Times reported that nearly all 400 seats in the Ballroom were filled fifteen minutes before the speeches and musical program began. The Building Committee Chair, Emily Pardee-Karns, recognized the three men whose generosity had helped make the Clubhouse a reality: the architect, Charles Hodges whose fee was only 2% of the construction cost; City Attorney, Norman E. Malcolm who donated his services and F.W. Fox, the contractor, who made little profit by building for the low fee of \$5,370.00.

In 2007, as in 1894, The Palo Alto Woman's Club takes pride in maintaining and preserving the building inherited from their founding mothers. Our 225 members are still committed to the goals of "friendship, self-improvement and community involvement." This year alone, the Club will contribute \$14,000.00 to local non-profit organizations which service women and children. The Woman's Club boasts six interest groups plus a monthly luncheon program with speakers. The Clubhouse provides a place of respite and friendship for its members as well as a valuable resource for the community. Thank you for supporting this benefit for the preservation of our building.

*This page generously sponsored by Judy & Kim Maxwell*



## MEET OUR APPRAISERS

### GENERALISTS

#### Bob Backlund

Bob is a respected authority in the field of antiques appraisal. Although his expertise covers a broad range, he is especially knowledgeable in the fields of 18th-19th century American furniture, silver, jewelry and Native American art. Contact: Bob Backlund at 650-593-8875.

#### Patricia Knight

Patricia is a member of the *Associated Antique Dealers of America*. Her specialty is 18th and 19th century porcelain, pottery, glass and silver as well as decorative objects from the same period. Contact: Patrician Antiques, at 650-941-6136.

#### Ginnie Lee

Ginnie is a long time and well know antiques dealer in the Bay Area. She is a generalist with specialties in furniture and textiles. Contact: Atherton Antique Gallery at 650-325-2021.

#### Irene Nordling Underwood, ASA

Irene is a certified Senior Member of the *American Society of Appraisers*. She has served as president of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of ASA and has chaired many national and local personal property committees. Irene's expertise was instilled in her by her mother, Ida Nordling, a respected and well known antiques dealer. Following in the family tradition, Irene's daughter, Lesley is a candidate for senior membership in the ASA. Both are members of *American Decorative Arts Forum* and *The Ceramic Circle*. Contact: Nordling Underwood Associates at 650-344-1901.

#### Steve Yvaska

Steve has been a collector since the age of nine, is well known and loved for his San Jose Mercury column: "The Seasoned Collector." A generalist, he has appeared to long lines at antique appraisal events and at Bay Area Home and Garden Shows. Steve offers informal evaluations of heirlooms and newly found treasures along with their history and care. American art pottery and silver, children's items, holiday collectibles, glass, ceramics and American silver are among his specialties. Contact Steve at 408-920-5986.





## MEET OUR APPRAISERS

### SPECIALISTS

#### *Georgie Gleim*

Georgie is a certified gemologist in and past President of the American Gem Society. She is also a member of the Women's Jewelry Association, a governor and past President of the Jewelers Education Foundation and a recipient of the prestigious Robert M. Shipley Award but the American Gem Society. Georgie is President of Gleim Jewelers, a family owned business since 1931 specializing in estate and antique jewelry. Contact: Gleim Jewelers at 650 329-1331.

#### *Marsha Vargas Handley, ASA*

Marsha is a Sr. Member of the American Society of Appraisers certified in Asian Art. She is the Director/Owner of Xanadu Gallery in San Francisco and Menlo Park and has specialized in Asian art for the past 35 years. Contact: Xanadu Gallery, 871 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park, CA at 650-329-9999.

#### *Cherie Helm*

Cherie is an internationally recognized expert on and collector of lace. She founded the Lace Museum and Guild in Sunnyvale. Contact: Lace Museum at 408-730-4695.

#### *Leila Phee Lyons (Lyons Ltd. Antique Prints)*

Leila is a lifetime member of the *International Society of Appraisers* as well as a member of the *Antiques Dealers Association of California* and of the Antiques Council. She has been an internationally known purveyor and appraiser of fine, original etchings, engravings and lithographs since 1968. Random House published her book, *Instant Expert: Collecting Prints* in February 2006. Dana Conley Lyons, director of Lyons Ltd., will join Leila. Contact: Lyons Ltd. Antique Prints, 10 Town and Country Village, Palo Alto at 650-325-9010.





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## Rent the Palo Alto Woman's Club

The Palo Alto Woman's Club, an historic Tudor-Craftsman style building in a quiet, residential neighborhood, is an ideal setting for your next special event. Our stately 1916 building provides the perfect backdrop for Palo Alto/Stanford functions. The Clubhouse is suited for Wedding Ceremonies, Receptions and Rehearsal Dinners as well as Corporate/Charitable Events, Meetings and Private Parties.

Greet your guests in our inviting foyer graced with a large Tiffany style chandelier before entering the Ballroom, a simply designed space with grand proportions. Daytime light floods the Ballroom through tall windows while eight brass and glass fixtures reflect off polished maple floors in the evening.

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No one ever forgets an event held at the charming Woman's Club! For rental inquiries, please call: 650-321-5821.

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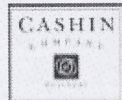
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# Woman's Club of Palo Alto

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Mary Grace Bertsch, Margaret Feuer, Karen Holman

### 2006-2008:

Melaine Bales, Wanda Cavanaugh, Emily Renzel

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Celiene O'Hara  
Julie Jerome  
Sharon Small  
Karen Holman  
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## APPRAISAL RECORD

### APPRAISER

### # ITEMS APPRAISED



Bob Backlund

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Georgie Gleim

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Cherie Helm

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Patricia Knight

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Ginnie Lee

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Irene Nordling Underwood

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Lesley Underwood

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Leila Phee Lyons

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Dana Lyons

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Marsha Vargas Handley

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Steve Yvaska

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Mimosa

*Thank You!*